2.

THE Converſion & Perſecutions OF EVE COHAN, Now called Elizabeth Verboon,

A Perſon of Quality of the Jewiſh RELIGION.

Who was Baptized the 10*th* of *October*, 1680. At St. *Martins* in the Fields,

By the Right Reverend Father in God,

WILLIAM,

Lord Biſhop of St. ASAPH.

LONDON:
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THE PREFACE.

THE World has been ſo often deceived in many pretended Converts, who make a Trade of changing their Religion, that it is no wonder if Men are not eaſily perſwaded of the ſincerity of thoſe who come over from one Religion to another; ſince it is certain the prepoſſeſſion of Education and Cuſtom is ſo ſtrong, that ſuch as turn to a New Religion, muſt either be led to it by a clear Conviction, which will ſhew it ſelf in other ſignal Effects, or are guilty of great levity and fickleneſs of Mind, that diſpoſes them too eaſily to change for changes ſake; or do it upon a baſer account, of working upon the Compaſſions of thoſe, who being very Religious themſelves, are apt to deal their Charity liberally to ſuch as ſeem to follow the ſteps of Abraham, who being called to it, forſook his Kindred and Country to ſerve the true and living God.

But here is a Convert that is indeed a Diſciple of the Croſs, and has, in all the ſteps ſhe made towards her Change, been oft in danger of her Life, and has ſuffered much from her Mother and Kindred: Whoſe Perſecutions ceaſed not after ſhe had taken ſanctuary in this Country, where ſhe might reaſonably have thought, that either the

the Jews durſt not preſume to have purſued her any longer; or if they would have attempted it, could not have found Inſtruments to have ſerved their wicked Deſigns. But even here, as they found out curſed Tools to have ſpirited her away; ſo when they failed, they betook themſelves to all the Arts of Villany, in which they are ſo well practiſed: and hoping that nothing could reſiſt their Wealth, of which they reſolved to be prodigal upon this Occaſion, they carried their Deſigns ſo far, that ſhe was neglected by ſome, and hardly uſed by others, from whom a greater Zeal to the Chriſtian Religion ought to have been expected.

When ſhe ſeemed thus abandoned by many Chriſtians, the Jews then hoped to have prevailed on her weakneſs and fears, and her Mother writ tenderly to her, to perſwade her to return home again: But God left her not wholly deſtitute, for as he directed her to lodg in a Houſe, where ſhe met with all the care and tenderneſs ſhe could have expected from her neareſt Relations; ſo ſhe was found out by that eminent and learned Convert Charles du Veil, Doctor of Divinity; who being born and bred a Jew, was firſt converted to the Chriſtian Religion in France; but both he, and his moſt learned Brother, ſeeing and deteſting the Idolatry of the Church of Rome, forſook the great Advantages they had, and might have expected there, and came hither, and joined themſelves to our Church. This Dr. Du Veil, remembring that word of our Saviour to St. Peter, When thou art converted, ſtrengthen the Brethren, made it his Buſineſs both to inſtruct and comfort her, and to procure the charitable Supplies and Aſſiſtances of others to her.

He applied himself chiefly to the Right Reverend Father in God, the Lord Bishop of St. Asaph, *as the Churchman most concerned in it, since this Convert had taken shelter in the Parish of* St. Martins, *of which he was then Vicar: and he followed her Concerns with that Zeal that the Occasion required. And the Lord Mayor of* London *being informed by him of the whole Business, has taken it into his care, with that sincere and hearty Affection which becomes a Christian, and so great a Magistrate; and is contriving the most effectual means possible, not only to do her right against her Oppressors, but also to have her possessed of a fair Estate that belongs to her in* Holland: *The hazard of losing which Estate, together with both Liberty and Life, she run with chearfulness, that she might embrace the Christian Religion. The particular account of so remarkable a Conversion, and those things which happened upon it, I hope will be no unacceptable entertainment to the Reader; and therefore having gathered the Passages and Steps of it together, upon very good Authority, I now offer them to the World.*

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THE
Converſion & Perſecution
OF
ELIZABETH VERBOON.

Elizabeth Verboon carries her Chriſten'd Name from the Baptiſmal Font, and her Surname from her Husband Mr. *Michael Verboon*, but her Name formerly was *Eve Cohan*: Her Father was *Abraham Cohan*, a Man of great Wealth and Credit, not only among the Jews in *Holland*, but among the *Dutch*: So that as *Michael Levi*, the Sollicitor for the Jews, informed the Lord Mayor, he was chief Governor of the Dutch Plantations in *Braſile*; and was then believed worth 100000 *l. Sterling*, but loſt a great deal of it when the *Portugueſes* beat the Dutch out of *Braſile*; yet, he ſaid, that to his knowledg he died worth 20000 *l.* or upward: He died about ten Years agoe, when this his Daughter was not twelve Years Old; who has lived ever ſince under her Mothers

care: Her Name was *Rebekah*, alias *Elizabeth*: She was Daughter to one *Pallacius*, who as this Convert had been told, was ſent Ambaſſador from the States, and was one of the Profeſſors in the Univerſity of *Leyden*. *Levi* knew this better than ſhe did, and told the Lord Mayor that he was ſent Ambaſſador, both to the Emperor of *Morocco*, and to the King of *Poland*; what he profeſſed in *Leyden* we do not yet know: It may be ſuppoſed, from his Negotiations, that he was a Civilian. He was a Jew in his heart, but gave himſelf out for a Chriſtian: So that his Daughter, and other Children, as we are informed, were all Baptized.

This *Eve Cohan* lived with her Mother at *Delft*, where one Mr. *Shol*, that teaches Muſick, being imployed to teach her, uſed frequently to diſcourſe with her of the Chriſtian Religion: and carried her ſometimes to Church, on pretence to hear the Organs play; where ſhe ſtaid, not only while the Pſalms were ſinging, but all the while, both of the Sermon and Prayers: And a New Teſtament being ſecretly conveyed to her, ſhe took great delight in reading in it. She ſays, That which firſt made Impreſſion on her, was, that their Nation was now diſperſed over the World, no more under the Conduct of any Prophet: Nor had they any of thoſe viſible Marks of the Favour and Protection of God, which their Anceſtors enjoyed in thoſe Ages in which the Books of the Old Teſtament were written. So that they ſeemed caſt off by God, and under theſe Curſes threatned by *Moſes* and

and the Prophets: and yet they kept the Laws of *Moſes* better than ever, and were more careful than their Fathers had been to abſtain from Idolatry. When ſhe read the Account of our Saviour's Paſſion, ſhe felt her ſelf mightily affected with that paſſage of *Judas*'s confeſſing that he had betrayed Innocent Blood; and his being ſo tranſported with the horror of it, that he went and hanged himſelf.

This did firſt open her eyes, about two Years agoe, and from that time ſhe was ever ſince diſpoſed to become a Chriſtian. But it coming ſome way to her Mothers knowledg, as ſhe diſcharged the Muſick-maſter, ſo ſhe treated her very ſeverely, and ſhut her up as a Priſoner near ſix months: and when gentler Severities were ineffectual, ſhe threatned to poiſon her if ſhe changed her Religion. So that once, for eight days together, ſhe durſt eat nothing that they gave her, till ſhe ſaw others taſte of it before her. She was oft beaten by her Mother, and not ſuffered to come to the Door, or look out at thoſe Windows that opened to the Street, leſt being in a Chriſtian Country, ſhe might have diſcovered her Deſigns to ſuch as would have aſſiſted her in bringing them to perfection. But that which confirmed her in the belief of Chriſtianity, was, what ſhe read of the Reſurrection of our Saviour, of which he had given aſſurance to his Followers before his Sufferings; this did ſo effectually convince her, that He was her onely Saviour and Redeemer, that ſhe called often on him for his aſſiſtance

and direction, and resolved to dedicate her self to his Service.

While she was under those Apprehensions and Fears, he that is now her Husband, Mr. *Michael Verboon*, then served her Eldest Brother, *Jacob Cohan*; he is descended of honest Parents, though but of a mean condition: He had been entertained by one of the Admiralty of *Utrecht*, as his Servant for three Years. After that he served the Heer *Waerkendam* (one of the States General, who was sent Ambassador into *Denmark*) other three Years; and when he left his Service, he had a Certificate of his Faithful Service, signed by his Lady, himself being then from home, bearing date the third day of *May*, 1679. From thence he went to serve *Jacob Cohan*, and staid with him nine months, and had from him a Certificate of his faithful Service, two days after he left him.

There has been very great enquiry made concerning him in *Holland*, and all People there give a good Character of him. He being in the same House with her, addressed himself to her as a Suitor for Marriage, which she for some months rejected, but at last gave him some encouragement, though no promise nor assurance; and indeed intended then no more, but to make use of his kindness to her, so far as to be conveyed, by his means, into some place of safety, where she might without danger profess her self a Christian. Upon this he left her Brother's Service, and resolved to go for some time into *France*, and went on his way as far as *Brussels*.

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She was daily in fear of her Life, and the rather, becauſe her Mother had ſaid to her, that Mr. *Honſlaier*, a Miniſter at *Delft*, had been with her to demand her from her, becauſe he underſtood ſhe had an inclination to turn Chriſtian. This we have learnt from *Holland* was not true, but only pretended by her Mother: and it is probable was ſaid by her, that ſhe might by that Artifice draw from her Daughter the diſcovery of a correſpondence ſhe ſuſpected might be between the Miniſter and her. Theſe things made her deſirous to be out of their hands; ſo having contrived the way of her eſcape, ſhe got out of her Mothers Houſe in the end of *May*; and knowing by a Letter that Mr. *Verboon* wrote to her, that he was ſtill at *Bruſſels*, ſhe went thither. But being more concerned to preſerve her Life, and to ſave her Soul, then careful how to live, ſhe did not ſo much as carry away the Jewels that were in her own poſſeſſion: ſo far was ſhe from robbing her Mother, or giving the reſt of the Family any ground to lay thoſe Actions on her, by which they hoped to have ruined her: though a parcel of very fair Jewels, that were her Mothers, lay ſo open to her very Eye, that ſhe could eaſily have carried them away if ſhe had deſigned it.

When ſhe ſaw that the Chriſtians at *Bruſſels* worſhipped Images, and hearing that the Chriſtians in *France* were generally guilty of the ſame Idolatry; ſhe reſolved rather to come into *England*, and be Baptized in a Chriſtian Church, that was not defiled with ſuch Abominations:

and

and Mr. *Verboon* having been bred a Proteſtant, and makeing her underſtand the difference between the two Churches, ſhe choſe to join her ſelf to a Proteſtant Church. So they went to *Newport*, and from thence came to *England*, in *July*, and took Lodgings in Mr. *Peter Lavignes* Houſe, a French Taylor in *Bedford-bury*. She carried her ſelf there very decently and vertuouſly; the People of the Houſe knew that ſhe went oft to Prayers: Mr. *Verboon* and ſhe lived like Brother and Siſter together; ſometimes they went to the Dutch Church in *London*. The mean while ſhe went to the Counteſs of *Arlington*, to deſire her to help her to a Service; but that good Lady knew not how to recommend her, till ſhe had a farther account of her from other hands.

On the 27*th* of *July*, *Moſes Cohan*, her youngeſt Brother, and *Samuel Vanderſee* her Couſen German, to whom, as it is ſaid, her Mother intended to have married her, found her out, and took Lodgings in the ſame Houſe. This made Mr. *Verboon* more preſſing to have her marry him, fearing they might, either by force or perſuaſion, prevail with her to return.

So on the 29*th* of *July*, they went out to *Knightsbridg*, with two Witneſſes, and were married there, according to the form of the Church of *England*. *Levi* was not aſhamed to ſay, before the Lord Mayor, that ſhe was within ſix weeks of her time; yet ſhe having been now ten weeks married, appears not to have been with Child till after her Marriage, of which ſhe has ſince miſcarried

ried by fright, as ſhall be told afterwards. And her Husband with a ſolemn Oath declared to Biſhop *Lloyd*, that ſhe kept him at a due diſtance ever till they were married.

Her Brother brought her a Letter from her Mother, in which ſhe charges her with no diſhoneſt or unhandſome thing, but with many fair Offers and Promiſes, perſuades her to abandon *Verboon*, and return home again.

Vanderſee did, by many impious Blaſphemies againſt the Perſon of our Bleſſed Saviour, endeavour to divert her from her Reſolution of becoming a Chriſtian.

But ſeeng all theſe ways were ineffectual, they reſolved to betake themſelves to more deſperate and miſchievous ones. And for this end they conſulted with *Michael Levi*, the formerly mentioned Sollicitor for the Jews; who laid the Train artificially enough to have ſpirited her away. He came often to the Houſe where they were lodged, and dealt with Miſtris *Lavigney* to help him to ſpeak with Miſtris *Verboon*; he offered her a Preſent, and made her many promiſes of large Rewards, both of Gold and Silver, if ſhe would perſwade her to go back to her Mother: But as Miſtris *Verboon* could not ſee him, ſo Miſtris *Lavigney* worthily rejected all his Offers, though he came four times to her, hoping

hoping, by ſuch Importunities and Bribes, to overcome her at laſt. They intended firſt to have arreſted Mr. *Verboon*, hoping if he were once put out of the way, they might deal with his Wife more effectually: but when the Bailiffs were brought about the Houſe, he was, by his Landladies care, conveyed out at the Window. It is plain, they have no juſt ground of any Action againſt him, for two days after he left her Brother's Houſe, he had a diſcharge of his Service under his Hand and Seal, bearing date the 17*th* of *May*, 1680.

When thoſe two Jews had been five weeks in the ſame Houſe with her, and perceived all the ways of Perſuaſion and Bribery were inſucceſsful, they then betook themſelves to other Courſes, in which they hoped they ſhould ſucceed.

Michael Levi found out two fit Tools for their purpoſe, one *Holland* a *Middleſex* Bailiff, and one *Hammond* a Serjeant, belonging to the Poultry-Counter; the former of theſe came ſometimes into the Houſe where they lodged, as a Porter, carrying Jewiſh Meat to *Cohan* and *Vanderſee*; by theſe means he was not ſuſpected, and ſo found an opportunity to execute a Warrant upon Maſter *Verboon*, under the name of *Eve Cohan*, on the firſt of *September*, for forty pound, at the Suit of her Mother. There was Bail preſently offered, by the

the procurement of the Landlord and his Wife: The Bailiff ſeemed willing to accept it, but *Hammond* had learned his Leſſon better; and pretended he muſt needs carry her to the Under-Sheriffs Office in *Hatton-Garden*, and ſo hurried her into a Coach, into which *Hammond* went with him: but Miſtris *Lavigne* thruſt her ſelf alſo in with them to ſee what ſhould be done with Miſtris *Verboon*: and thoſe who offered to bail her, followed them to the Sheriffs Office.

All the while that this was doing, *Levi*, the principal Contriver, was ſtanding at ſome diſtance, to ſee the iſſue of the Plot he had ſo skilfully laid, and carried himſelf, as if he had known nothing of it, but asked one, for what was that diſturbance? the Woman he ſpake to, perceiving he was a Jew, treated him with the Indignation that ſuch a Provocation ſeemed almoſt to juſtify; and he fearing ſome violent effects of it, ran away. But *Holland* the Bailiff, inſtead of carrying his Priſoner to the Sheriffs Office, where thoſe that went to be Bail, ſtaied ſome hours in vain expecting them, ordered the Coachman to drive within the Liberties of *London*, and then diſcharged her of the Arreſt he had her under, and immediately *Hammond* took out his Mace, and arreſted her for 2000 *l.* at her Mothers Suit, and ſo carried her into *London*.

It was in vain to tell them, that ſhe being married, and under Covert-barr, was liable to no Arreſt for Debts; for though the Certificate of the Marriage was ſhewed them, they who had other Inſtructions from *Levi*, reſolved to finiſh the Project he had laid: which, as *Hammond* then declared, was for carrying her away into *Holland*. And *Levi* confeſſed afterward, before the Lord Chief Juſtice *Scroggs*, that he had employed *Hammond* to Arreſt her. When the Coachman had driven to the Roſe Tavern near the *Poultry* Counter, *Hammond* had a mind to make Miſtris *Verboon* to go up two pair of Stairs; but ſhe was in ſuch a fright, and trembled ſo, that ſhe ſat down in the firſt Floor; and there Miſtris *Lavigne* began to open the Buſineſs to ſome Company that was in the Rome: but *Hammond*, in a great rage, called the Drawer, and made him drag her out of the Room; and then going up one pair of Stairs higher, he went about to perſuade her to be contented and go home in quiet, for, ſaid he, Miſtris *Verboon* ſhould not go to Priſon, but lodg in his Houſe, where ſhe ſhould be well uſed: and told her, that *Levi* had emploied him in this Buſineſs, who never undertook any Affair in which he did not ſucceed.

But finding ſhe ſtill perſiſted in her reſolution of aſſiſting of Miſtris *Verboon*, and of bringing ſome

to

to Bail her, he threatned her that ſhe ſhould never be paid what was owing her, and that ſhe and her Husband both, ſhould come into great trouble and danger, by medling further in it; but if ſhe would make no more noiſe, ſhe ſhould not only be paid, but well rewarded.

All theſe had no effect on her, ſo a Perſon ſhe had ſent for coming to them, he forced *Hammond* to carry her to the Counter; for they knew well the deſign of carrying her to the Serjeants-Houſe, was only that ſhe might be conveyed away more ſecretly.

She being lodged in the Priſon, Maſter *Lavigne* fearing that the Jews might have taken her out of Priſon, ſet ſome to keep conſtant watch before the Counter Gate; and after two days entred an Action of 500 *l.* againſt her, that ſo ſhe might not come out without his knowledg; and leſt the Jews ſhould have brought ſome to have bailed her out, that ſo they might get her into their Power; he continued his Watch there [employing ſome, on whom he knew their Bribes would have no influence] ſeveral Nights before the Counter Gate. There was need of all this Caution, when the Jews were ſo cruelly ſet on the poor Womans deſtruction; and had found out ſuch fit Inſtruments

for their ends. She knew what she was to expect if she fell in their hands, for *Vanderfee* had told her, That if she proved with Child in their hands, she should see it when delivered of it, but never more: but she had reason to look for further Effects of their enraged Cruelty, if they had her once in their Power. And that those, whose Ancestors in Unbelief, had with so bloody a Malice crucified our Blessed Saviour, would have spared no invention of Mischief, to execute their Revenge on one, that was now resolved to believe in Him.

But so zealous was *Hammond* to serve the Jews in this Plot, that seeing Mistris *Lavigne* was like to raise a great stir about it, and that neither Promises, nor Threatnings, nor Violence, could work on her; for he found the calling of her *Witch*, *Bawd*, and such other base Names, and the beating her, and pulling her by the Hair of the Head, could not deliver him from her Importunities; he thereupon contrived another way to frighten her, or to have her torn in pieces by the People.

It is probable that *Levi* contrived this also, for both he and the other Jews came oft and drank with *Hammond* at the Rose Tavern: but whosoever contrived it, this way *Hammond* took; The

next

next time he ſaw her, he cried out, *A Papiſt Bitch, a harbourer of Jeſuits*; though it is notoriouſly known, that both ſhe and her Husband have been always good Proteſtants: with this Out-cry he brought many together; who if her Siſter had not been there, and brought ſome Friends to reſcue her out of their Hands, had very probably done her much miſchief.

But the poor Priſoner, who now ſeemed in a forlorn ſtate, was not forſaken of him, to whoſe Service ſhe was reſolved to dedicate her ſelf. Miſtris *Lavigne* had brought Dr. *du Veil* to her while ſhe lay at her Houſe, as the fitteſt Perſon to inſtruct her, having been himſelf of that Religion. He waited on her every day during her Impriſonment, and comforted her much in her Afflictions: for theſe were the Pledges of her being to Reign with Chriſt, ſince ſhe now ſuffered for him. He took care alſo of providing ſuch Supplies as her Neceſſities called for.

And above all the reſt of the good Offices he did her, he acquainted the Lord Biſhop of St. *Aſaph* with the Matter, in whoſe Pariſh this Priſoner was lodged, when ſhe was ſo violently and fraudulently carried out of it; He had been out of Town when ſhe was taken, but coming to it

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the next day, he ſet about it with all that diligence and zeal which the occaſion required.

But now the Jews finding their Priſoner was under ſuch a Protection, betook themſelves to more Artificial Methods; and knowing that there was no ground, neither for the Action of 40 nor of 2000 *l.* let theſe fall the next Court day, and brought two new Actions, one of 500 *l.* at the Suit of *Vanderſee*, and the other of 200 *l.* for Trover and Proviſion at her Mothers Suit; and they entertained my Lord Chief Juſtice *Scroggs* his Son to be their Counſel.

A Reverend Divine had informed my Lord Chief Juſtice of the Affair, who ordered a hearing of the Buſineſs before himſelf at his Houſe, on the 10*th* of *September*: where becauſe Biſhop *Lloyd* could not then attend, he ſent Mr. *Tiſſar* to appear for Miſtris *Verboon*. When they came thither, *Levi* and *Vanderſee*, with *Hammond*, being on the one ſide, were called up Stairs, for what end is not known: but after a little ſtay they came down, and ſoon after my Lord Chief Juſtice came out, and ſaid, he was in haſte, and muſt go to *White-Hall*, and ſo could not hear it: but he very mildly ſaid, "He ſaw the thing was a Trick, and that "*Hammond* had been abuſed; but he bad him go "from him, to the Judg of the Sheriffs Court, and "tell

"tell him, he perceived it was a Cheat. This was all could be obtained for him. So the poor Christian Complainants went away, as much cast down, as the Jews were lifted up with this great Success.

On the *7th* of *September*, the Trial for *Vandersee's* pretended Debt was brought into the Sheriffs Court, where Mistris *Verboon's* Attorney, Mr. *Cross* of *Woodstreet*, though he knew of her Marriage, yet pleaded *non Assumpsit*. So the Witnesses were ordered to be summoned to the next Court Day; which was the *9th*, and then the Trial was put off till *Saturday*. Then the Jews had obtained a *Levetur* for removing it to the Lord Mayor's Court, for a further delay: but the Lord Mayor being informed rightly of the Matter, by that worthy Gentleman Mr. *Crisp*, the Common Serjeant, presently signed a *Remandetur*, by which the Business was turned back to the Sheriffs Court; for the Jews had such a good acceptance with the Lord Chief Justice, that they hoped now to have wearied the poor Prisoner out with Vexatious Suits and Delays.

The Common Serjeant did also most worthily Bail her, on the *11th* of *September*: So being at liberty, she resolved to delay her Profession of the Christian

Chriſtian Religion no longer, having been now as it were initiated into it by the Croſs which ſhe had born ſo long.

Yet the Biſhop of St. *Aſaph* reſolved to delay it till he got a return to a Letter he wrote to the Miniſter of the Engliſh Congregation at the *Hague*, deſiring him and Mr. *Swanſwick* (a Learned Advocate there, with whom he had made an Acquaintance, when he waited on her Highneſs the Princeſs of *Orange* into *Holland*) to inform themſelves of as many Particulars as they could learn concerning Miſtris *Verboon* and her Husband: and having received a long and full Anſwer from the Miniſter to whom he wrot, he perceived it had been known in *Delft*, by the means of the Muſick-maſter, that this Convert was enclined to be a Chriſtian; that ſhe had been ſometimes at Church to hear Sermons; that ſhe uſed often to read the *New Teſtament*; and that her Mother had treated her barbarouſly; but the Miniſters had not demanded her, as her Mother had ſaid to her.

So that was a piece of the Mothers Craft, to fiſh out of her Daughter what Correſpondence there might have been between them and her: and for Mr. *Verboon*, they had a good Character given of him by all that knew him; only the angry Mother accuſed him of ſome ill things; but the diſ-

charge

charge of his Service two days after he left the Houſe, ſhews theſe were all Calumnies. And in a word, the Biſhop found that every thing that Miſtris *Verboon* had told him, proved to be true: So having uſed this Caution, which the many Cheats of pretended Converts had made more neceſſary, he reſolved to Baptiſe her into the Chriſtian Religion; and left the particular care of inſtructing her on Dr. *du Veil*, who had of his own accord travelled much in it, and had followed all her Concerns with a very tender Care and aſſiduous Zeal.

But though ſhe was bailed out of Priſon, yet ſhe was not delivered from the Perſecutions of her Family. They knew well ſhe had ſtollen nothing from her Mother, and that ſhe owed her nothing.

On the contrary, her Mother ows her her Portion, which by *Levy*'s own account, will riſe to above 2500 *l.* And he alſo ſaid, That her Mother had offered her to him with 3000 *l.* Portion in preſent, and more after her ovvn Death.

Vanderſee, when he was before my Lord Chief Juſtice, pretended, that all he did was on the Mothers Account, and that Miſtris *Verboon* was indebted ſo much to her in Mony. But novv in the Sheriffs Court, *Vanderſee* ſued for a Debt pretended

to be due to himſelf. Her Marriage was proved in Court, by the Oath of the Miniſter, the Clark, and two Witneſſes; but all that went for nothing, the Attorney having made another Plea. But then for the pretended Debt, no Evidence was brought, but her Brother *Moſes*; and he could ſpeak no Engliſh, but as *Smith* his Interpreter ſwore: he ſaid, upon his Oath, that he ſaw *Vanderſee* lend her four Duccatoons at Mr. *Lavigne's* Houſe, which comes to about two and twenty Shillings Engliſh Mony: So now all the Actions of 40, 2000, 500, and 200 *l.* upon which they had ſo long vexed and impriſoned her, dwindled into this ſmall Debt; which the Jews knew, if it had been due, they could have had it any time for the asking. But ſo *impartially* did the Jury proceed in this Verdict, that upon this ſingle Evidence, and he manifeſtly a Party in the Conſpiracy, and ſwearing on an Engliſh Bible, which they count a prophane Book, and on the back ſide of it too, which Dr. *du Veil* told them was no Oath by the Jews Doctrine; yet upon this Evidence they caſt Miſtris *Verboon*; ſo that after all other Rigours, Coſts of the Suit were to come on her, according to our Law; which the Judg of the Court ſet at 40 *s.*

From

From all this it is apparent, that the whole Buſineſs was a Conſpiracy of the Jews, of which *Levi* vvas the chief Contriver, and *Hammond* the main Inſtrument, though the Lord Chief Juſtice was ſo favourable to him, as to ſay, He was abuſed in that matter, and drawn into it. Both of theſe expreſſed their Joy, not vvithout ſome tranſport, vvhen the Jury gave their Verdict. *Levi* ſaid, He would give 500 *l.* on condition ſhe had not been bailed: *Hammond* ſaid to thoſe vvho had depended much on the Biſhop of St. *Aſaph*'s Aſſiſtance, *Where is your Lord now?*

Mr. *Verboon* vvas adviſed to Arreſt *Vanderſee* for the falſe Impriſonment of his Wife; and on the 4*th* of *September* he Arreſted him in an Action of 200 *l.* vvhich vvas not out of reaſon; but very modeſt for one that had ſuffered ſo many Arreſts for ſuch great Sums, and all for nothing: but *Levi* ſoon bailed him; and ſo prevalent vvere the Arts and Preſents of the Jews, that it vvas entred in the Books but 20 *l.* So that vvhether they are Plantiffs or Complainants, they are reſolved to ſhew their skill; and perhaps have a ſecret Pleaſure to let the World ſee how much their Practices can vvork on thoſe vvho are called Chriſtians; even in a Matter vvherein the honour of Jeſus Chriſt is ſo much concerned.

But the Malice of the *Jews* ſtopt not her, for perceiving that Miſtris *Verboon* vvas by her Marriage covered from all their Suits, they reſolved on another vvay, vvhich looks like a Deſign to deſtroy her.

Levi had ſaid before my Lord Mayor, that ſhe vvas vvithin two months of her time, and therefore he could not but believe ſhe vvas vvith Child, and very capable of being frighted into Miſcarriage.

But it vvas a ſure effect of their Revenge on her Husband, againſt vvhom *Vanderſee* had expreſſed ſo much malice, that he hath often ſaid he vvas reſolved to kill him, though he ſhould be hanged for it. So on the ſecond of *October*, Mr. *Verboon* vvas Arreſted in an Action of 200 *l.* and it appears that the Bailiffs vvere again inſtructed to behave themſelves vvith more than ordinary rudeneſs: one of them vvas *Benedict Helm*; there vvere others vvhoſe Names are not known. They came at Dinner-time, vvhen they might expect to find them at Dinner together: they ſeized upon him at Table, and dragged him forth vvith their utmoſt violence; vvhich vvhen Miſtris *Lavigne* ſaw, and vvithal took notice of a Coach at the Door, ſhe immediately reflected on the Trick that they had put on them before: and therefore ran to him, and claſped her Arms

Arms about his Waſte, to keep him from being thruſt into the Coach. The Bailiffs, to be revenged on her, beat and bruiſed her Head, Breſt, and Body, vvith the greateſt fury; of vvhich the marks appear yet on her: Her Head vvas broke in three places, and ſhe vvas thereby, as the Chyrurgeon has certified under his hand, in great hazard of her Life: yet ſhe clogged them ſo, that they could not get their Priſoner into the Coach; and the People beginning to come about them, they were fain to thruſt him into an Alehouſe near at hand: from whence ſhe preſently ſent an Advertiſement to the Biſhop of St. *Aſaph*. Upon his coming, and offering the Bailiffs Bail, they ſaw it in vain to attempt any thing farther, and ſo accepted the Bail. But though Mrs. *Lavigne* was forced to keep her Bed ſome time, by the Wounds and Bruiſes ſhe received, yet this had a more fatal effect on poor Miſtris *Verboon*; who when ſhe ſaw the Bailiffs draging her Husband, fell preſently in a ſwoon; and being then young with Child, was ſo diſordered by the fright, that ſhe has not yet recovered it; but on the 9*th* day after ſhe miſcarried. The Midwife, and others that were with her, are ready to declare upon Oath, that the Conception had been ſome days dead, and waſted within her; and that it was not above eight or nine weeks old, though ſhe had

been

been eleven weeks married. So falſe was that Imputation which *Levi* caſt on her before the Lord Mayor, that ſhe was within two months of her time. How far the Law will charge this on the Bailiffs, or on the Jews that ſet them on to it, I do not know; but ſure I am, they are in a high degree guilty of Murder before God. When all theſe Effects of the Malice and Induſtry of the Jews had appeared ſo evidently, the Biſhop of St. *Aſaph*, who had before acquainted the Lord Mayor with the Buſineſs, having received the Anſwer formerly mentioned from *Holland*, did then, with more aſſurance, deſire his aſſiſtance in this Affair, in which the Honour of the Chriſtian Religion, and of the Engliſh Nation, was ſo much concerned.

The Lord Mayor did thereupon ſend for *Levi*, to hear what he could ſay for the defence of himſelf, and of his Countrymen: who made ſome pretended excuſes for himſelf, as if he had not medled in the Matter at all; but he did not deny that he believed the Deſign of the Jews was to force Mrs. *Verboon* to go back to her Mother, who he acknowledged was a ſevere and cruel Woman. By his own Story, the Lord Mayor perceived clearly what a malicious Contrivance this whole proſecution of Mrs. *Verboon* and her Husband had been; and told *Levi*, very roundly, that they ſhould ſoon

ſee

ſee what a thing they had done, who finding ſhelter in a Chriſtian Country, and being ſo obnoxious to the Law as they all were, durſt offer ſuch an Affront to the Religion, and to the Nation, as thus to endeavour to Spirit away one, to whoſe charge they could lay nothing, but her turning Chriſtian. This he aſſured him ſhould be carried ſo far, as to reach their whole Congregation. There was no way to redeem them from trouble, but for them to bring over her Portion from her Mother, and to ſatisfy her to the full for the Coſts and Trouble to which they had put her: And if they did not do that, he aſſured him, he would carry the Matter as far as the Law would allow him againſt their whole Sect: and though his time was near an end, yet he knew his Succeſſour would purſue it with the ſame vigour, with which he was reſolved to begin. He gave alſo order to ſome to bring him an Extract of the Laws in force againſt the Jews. And for *Hammond*, no doubt he will be made an Example for his impious Conſpiracy with the Enemies of Chriſt, againſt one for turning to him, which was the only root of all the malice they bore her.

This Matter being thus put in a fair way, the Biſhop reſolved to receive her into the Chriſtian Church by Baptiſm. He gave the Right Honourable, Sir *Lionel Jenkins*, one of his Majeſty's principal

principal Secretaries of State, an account of all the ſteps of this Affair; who as he has expreſſed in his whole Life a true & ſincere love to the Chriſtian Religion; to which he has been an Ornament indeed, by the gravity and ſtrictneſs of his deportment, in all thoſe high Employments in which he has behaved himſelf with ſo much Honour; So he received the Biſhop's Information of this Converſion and Perſecution, with that ſenſe which might have been expected from ſo good and ſo great a Man. He offered, not only all the aſſiſtance which he could give her in his Office, or at the Council-Board, when the Matter ſhould be brought thither; but concerned himſelf ſo particularly in it, as to be her Suſceptor in Baptiſm; and thoſe two moſt Religious and Devout Ladies, the Counteſſes of *Thanet* and *Clarendon* very readily took upon themſelves to be her Godmothers. So on the 10*th* of *October*, after Evening Prayers, ſhe was Baptized in St. *Martins* Church in the Fields. She has ſince ſaid, that ſhe felt an unuſual Joy in her Mind, when ſhe was initiated to Chriſtianity, having now performed vvhat ſhe had long purpoſed and vviſhed to do: and though ſhe ſaw a Jew in the Church, looking and laughing at her in the very time, this did not a vvhit diſorder her But as it may be ſuppoſed, her inward and vehement deſire of *Baptiſm* might have

have ſupported her till that was over; ſo the Night after it, thoſe Frights and Diſorders ſhe had been put in formerly, chiefly that laſt vvhen her Husband vvas Arreſted, brought pains on her, vvhich ended in an Abortion, as vvas formerly told.

This Recital was thought neceſſary, to let the Nation ſee what a ſort of People theſe Jews are, whom we harbour ſo kindly among us; who, as they yet lie under the guilt of that Innocent Blood, which their Fathers wiſhed might reſt on them and their Children: ſo continue not only in their obſtinate Infidelity, but do ſtill thirſt after the Blood of ſuch of their Nation as believe in Him whom their Fathers Crucified; and whom they in deriſion called often to this Convert that *hanged Man.* He was indeed hanged on a Tree by the Jews of his Time, but they themſelves knew then that He roſe from the Dead, and ſo triumphed over all that Hell or helliſh Men had contrived: and tho they hired the Souldiers, that firſt ſaw Him riſing out of the Grave, to ſuppreſs ſo dreadful a Truth, as his Reſurrection muſt needs have been to them, yet it broke out with ſuch undeniable Evidence, that not a few of thoſe who had procured his Death, came afterwards to believe in Him: nor could they, by the Impriſonments, Whippings, Stonings, and all the other Effects of their enraged Cruelty, by which thoſe firſt Converts to Chriſtianity ſuffered ſo much, fright

them from publiſhing thoſe things which they had ſeen and heard. One of whom, as he was among the moſt violent Perſecutors of that way, ſo he was one of the moſt learned and zealous of their Religion; was by ſuch an irreſiſtable force from Heaven both convinced and converted, ſo that he became from the Chief of Sinners, the Chief of the Apoſtles of Chriſt.

According to the ſage Advice of *Gamaliel*, the Event clearly proved that this Doctrine was of God: for as of old, *Dagon's* falling before the Ark of God, was a proof of the weakneſs of the Idol, and of the Majeſty of the living God, whoſe Simbole the Ark was; So their being driven out of their Land, their Temple being deſtroyed, by which all thoſe Expiations, which that Covenant afforded for Sin, can no longer be had; ſhew that the Covenant with their Fathers is diſſolved, their Ceremonies are ineffectual, and the whole *Moſaical* Religion is determined long agoe. *Joſephus*, the laſt of their Writers, to whom any credit is due in Matters of Hiſtory, has given a great, though a ſhort teſtimony to theſe things; and though he has not enlarged on our Saviour, as he has done either on St. *John* the *Baptiſt*, or St. *James* the Leſſer, the Brother of our Lord, as he is commonly called, knowing how diſpleaſing it would be to his Countrymen to dwell much on ſuch a Subject; yet he was too

faithful

faithful a Writer, to have quite paſſed over a Matter of ſuch great conſequence.

I do not deſign to inflame any to Rage or Fury againſt the Jews, nor do I deſire to have any force put upon their Conſciences: *For the Wrath of Man worketh not out the Righteouſneſs of God*; but I have the rather written this, to provoke all, that may be concerned in the Sequel of this Affair, to proceed in it as becomes truly zealous Chriſtians, and to redeem the Nation from the Infamy that ſo baſe a Conſpiracy (if not ſeverely puniſhed) will bring on it; that ſo thoſe Enemies of Chriſt, if they are ſuffered to live among us, yet may not again dare to adventure on ſuch Practices, againſt thoſe who forſake their blind Superſtition, and come to believe in the only Saviour of the World: And that thoſe who are called Chriſtians, may by the ſignal puniſhment of thoſe Inſtruments of Wickedneſs, whom they found among us, be ſo terriſied, that they may no more, with *Judas*, for a little Mony, betray a Member of Chriſt, to be Crucified by them.

FINIS.